

REMARKS

The Examiner allowed claims 26-29. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowed subject matter.

The Examiner objected to claims 12 and 31-37 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 10, 11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Krivokapic *et al.* in view of Kumar.

The Examiner rejected claims 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Krivokapic *et al.* in view of Kumar and further in view of Yu.

The Examiner rejected claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yu in view of Kumar.

Applicants respectfully traverse the § 103 rejections with the following arguments.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 10, 11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Krivokapic *et al.* in view of Kumar.

The Examiner rejected claims 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kirvokapic *et al.* in view of Kumar and further in view of Yu.

The Examiner rejected claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yu in view of Kumar.

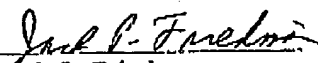
The Examiner indicated that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have incorporated the limitations of claim 12 into independent claim 9. Applicants have amended claims 31, 32, and 35 to each incorporate the limitations of claim 30 from which claims 31, 32, and 35 respectively depend. Therefore, based on the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 31, 32, and 35, Applicants respectfully contend that claims 31, 32, and 35 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 33-34 depend from claim 32, Applicants contend that claims 33-34 are likewise in condition for allowance. Since claims 36-37 depend from claim 35, Applicants contend that claims 36-37 are likewise in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0456.

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